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- (54) Method and apparatus for forming a base on a tubular container Verfahren und Vorrichtung zum Formen eines Bodens auf einen rohrförmigen Container Méthode et dispositif pour former une base sur un récipient tubulaire
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- (56) References cited: FR-A- 1 341 915 GB-A- 2 190 323 HS-A- 4 314 799

GB-A-1 080 184 NL-A- 6 514 487 US-A- 4 421 705

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Description

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for forming a base on a tubular container.

Numerous such methods are known. For example, its known in the mautacture of qualminium and fissions to form the base onto the tubular container by rolling adjacent edge fanges into interdoring enagement, and passed to the second containers, it is known to mould the base often a faultin material, and than to glue the base onto the tube. It is also known to glue plastic bases onto terminated careboard tubes, and the life.

In all such prior art methods, however, a number of discrete process steps are required first to form the base itself, and then to secure the base to the tube. As is well known by those skilled in the art, excessive process expost of this nature substantially increase the costs of production and capital equipment, and lead to reduced reliability and increased maintenance of equipment and process lines. This is particularly undesirable in high rate production applications.

US-A-4,314,799 discloses a compression moulding machine for organic thermoplastic materials. For moulding articles at a high rate, "gobs" of heated organic thermoplastic material are successively deposited into open topped moulding cavities respectively defined by a plurality of moulding members, which are continuously movable around a horizontal closed loop path. In one embodiment , the moulding cavity is configured to ellow an end wall to be formed on a can. The side wall of the can is applied in surrounding relationship to a plunger, which functions as a mandrel, and the extreme end of the side wall of the can is carried by the plunger into the moulding cavity so that the end wall is compression moulded into assembly with the side wall element. The plunger is maintained in position just long enough for material in the moulded end wall to become stable.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved method and/or apparatus which overcomes or substantially ameliorates at least some of the shortcomings of the prior art.

Accordingly, in a first aspect, the invention provides an apparatus for forming a base on a tubular container. said apparatus comprising a die, a punch plate having an sperture defining an open end of said die, a punch 45 co- operable with said punch plate and said die, transport means to feed a strip of thermoplastic material between said punch and said punch plate, heating means to heat the thermoplastic material, and locating means to locate the container such that one end extends marginally into said die, the punch being selectively operable in a single stroke to shear off a slug of said material by forcing said strip against said plate and to punch the slug through the aperture into forming angagement with the die such that a peripheral edge of the stug is thermoplastically bonded to the exposed end of the container within the die to form said base

Preferably, the transport means is disposed to feed the strip of hot thermoplastic material directly from an extrusion die to minimise the extent of intermediate cooling and thereby obviate the need for a separate heating step. In one embodiment, the extrusion die itself constitutes the transport means.

Preferably, the apparatus includes a vent to direct air from the die cavity during the punching cycle.

Preferably also, the apparatus further includes ejection means disposed to direct pressurised gas between the base and the die upon withdrawal of the punch to elect the container.

The punch and die are preferably liquid cooled to minimise cycle time.

In the preferred embodiment, the localing means comprises in nine shell and a complementary extended the disposal respectively to provide inwardly and out-wardly directed radial support for the dide valla of the container during the forming process. One of the shells preferably incorporates advirem means to localle the remote end of the tube and thereby determine the remote end of the tube and thereby determine the extent to which the exposed end extends into the die. The abunent means is preferably adjustable to accommodate bubble containers of different length, in the preferred embodiment, the abunent means comprises an annular shoulder formed on the inner shell.

According to a second aspect, the invention provides a method of forming a beas on a tabular combains, said method comprising the steps of locating the constanter such that one end extends marginally into a dis, heating a stift of thermoplastic material, feeding the ethic of thermoplastic material between a punch and a punch pitet hering an aperture defining an open and of said dis, chearing off a elug of real material by forcing said stip appliest seld pites, and punching said suptimities that perfect and punching said suptimities that perfect adapt of the stup is thermoplastically bonded to the exposed end of the combainer within the die to form said base.

A preferred embodiment of the invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which;-

Figure 1 is a cross sectional side elevation showing an apparatus according to the invention; and Figure 2 is a cross sectional view similar to Figure 1

incorporating a pair of die assemblies disposed to shuttle beneath the punch.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view showing a tubular container incorporating a base formed in accordance with the method and apparatus of the invention.

Referring firstly to Figure 1, the invention provides an apparatus 1 for forming a base 2 on a thuter container 3 as shown in Figure 3. The apparatus comprises at 6.5 partially defined by a die face 8, and a fixed punch plate 7 having an aperture 8 defining an open end of the die. A punch 10 is selectively operable by means of a conventional hydraulic, pneumatic or mechanical acutator (not shown) to co-operate with the punch plate and the die.

The apparatus further includes locating means 12 in the form of respective inner and outer shells 14 and 15. The shells together define an intermediate radial centrace space adepted nestingly to accommodate the 6 tubular container 3 and thereby provide radial support cluring the base forming process. The terminal end of the inner shell 14 opposite the punch forms the die face 6. The remote and of the inner shell incorporates abutment means in the form of an annular shoulder 20 to 10 cate the tender end of the tube. The inner and outer shells and associated shoulder 20 are disposed to locate the tender container such that an exposed end 21 extends marginally into the die oxify by several millimeters.

The apparatus turther includes an extrusion die (not shown) located above the pursoh 10 to feed a strip or ribbon 22 of hot thermoplastic material downwardly between the pursch plate 7 and the pursch 10.

Turning now to describe briefly the operation of the asperants, a thusine body or container 3 is first leaded between the inner and outer supporting shells such that the exposed marginal end 21 extends into the 64 exatly. A ribbon 22 of hot thermoplastic material is then excluded and progressively led downwardly between as the punch 10 and the punch plate 7. The stip 22 is fed directly from the extrusion det brough the forming apparatus so that the thermoplastic material disposed adjacent their last an appropriate temperature for the subsequent forming opporations, without the need for a secerate health on the control of the con

At the desired time, the punch is moved through the punch plate to shear off a slug of the hot material. Further movement of the punch forces the slug through the aperture 8 and into forming engagement with the lower 35 die face 6, at which stage the punch face effectively closes the die. Whilst the slug is being driven into the die, the die cavity is vented through passages 25 in the punch 10 to prevent unintentional distortion of the hot plastic during the forming process. Application of further forming pressure by the punch causes the peripheral edge of the slug to be thermoplastically bonded to the exposed end 21 of the container within the die, in order to form the base 2. As best seen in Figure 3, the die cavity is configured such that the exposed end of the can is sandwiched between respective inner and outer lips 32 and 33 ot plastic material to ensure maximum mechanical and thermoplastic bonding and an air-tight seal.

Once the base has been formed, the punch is entracted and the shell assembly 14 and 15 moved from beneath the punch. The container incorporating the resethy moulded base is then ejected from the supporting shells by compressed air injected between the die face and the base through passage 35. The cycle is then repeated.

During the forming cycles, coolant is directed through the punch through cooling passages 30. This prevents overheating of the punch head, minimises cycle time, and permits increased control over the tem-

perature of the thermoplastic material during the forming process. Similarly, coolant may be directed through the Inner and/or outer supporting shells 14 and 15 through appropriate cooling passages if required.

In the embodiment of Figure 2, a pair of die and helf assemblies are disposed to shuttle benerath the punch. This arrangement permits the bute to be loaded from a megazine into the free die, whilst the positions are the alternated permitting the tube incorporating the newly formed base to be ejected whilet a base is similaneously formed on the tube in the other die. In other embodiments, a rotary barrel supporting an army of die stations may be orowheld.

It will be appreciated that in accordance with the present method, the base is punched, transported into the disciplination of the present method, the base is punched, transported into the discardly, and formed onto the container in a single punch etroice. This initiatives heat lose, reduces the trans required to forge the hot slug, minimises the transe of Islah within the dic, obviates the need for Intermediate hearing steps, and substantially simplifies the torning procedure. Thus, the invention represents a commercially significant improvement over the prior art. Although the invention has been described with ref-

serence to a specific example, it will be appreciated that the invention may be embodied in many other forms.

Clatms

- 1. Apparatus for forming a base (2) on a tubular container (3), the apparatus comprising a die (5), a punch plate (7) having an aperture (8) defining an open end of the die (5), a punch (10) co-operable with the punch plate (7) and the die (5), transport means for feeding a strip (22) of thermoplastic material between the punch (10) and the punch plate (7), heating means for heating the thermoplastic material, and locating means (12) for locating the container (3) such that one end extends marginally into the die (5), the punch (10) being operable in a single stroke to shear off a slug of the material by forcing the strip (22) against the punch plate (7) and to punch the slug through the aperture (8) into forming engagement with the die (5) such that a peripheral edge of the slug is thermoplastically bonded to the exposed end of the container (3) within the die (5) to form the base (2).
- Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transport means is disposed to feed the strip (22) of thermoplastic material directly from an extrusion die.
- Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the extrusion die feeds the thermoplastic material directly between the punch (10) and the punch plate (7) and thereby constitutes the said transport means.
- Apparatus according to any preceding claim, further including a vent (25) to direct air from the die

- Apparatus according to any preceding claim, further including ejection means disposed to direct pressurised gas between the base and the die upon s withdrawal of the punch to eject the container.
- Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein the locating means (12) comprises an inner shell (14) and a complementary outer shell (15) disposed respectively to provide inner and outer support for the side walls of the futural container (3) during the forming process.
- Apparatus according to claim 6, further including abument means (20) for locating the remote and of the tubular container (2) and thereby determine the extent to which the exposed end extends into the die (5).
- Apperatus according to claim 7, wherein the abutment means (20) is adjustable to permit selective variation of the extent to which the exposed end extends into the die (5) and to accommodate tubular containers (3) of different lengths.
- Apparatus according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the abutment means comprises a shoulder (20) formed on the inner shell (14).
- Apparatus according to any of claims 6 to 9, wherein the proximal end of the inner shell (14) opposite the punch (10) defines one face (6) of the die (5), and the punch (10) defines a corresponding opposite face of the die (5).
- 11. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein the cite (5) is configured such that the exposed end of the container (3) within the cite (5) is sandwiched between respective inner and outer or lips (32, 38) of thermoplastic material associated with the base (2) to enhance mechanical engagement and thermoplastic bonding between the container (3) and the base (9).
- Apparatus according to any preceding claim, further including cooling means to direct coolant through the punch (10) or the die (5).
- Apparatus according to claim 12 when dependent on claim 6, wherein the cooling means is further adapted to direct coolant through at least one of the inner and cuter supporting shells (14, 15).
- 14. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, so including a pair of the said dies (5) disposed to shuttle beneath a single punch (10), thereby permitting one container (3) to be loaded into a first one of the dies (5), whilst the punch (10) forms a base (2)

- on the container (3) in a second one of the dies (5), whereby alternation of positions permits the container (3) incorporating the newly formed base (2) to be ejected from the second die (5) whilst a base (2) is simultaneously formed on the container (3) in the first die (5).
- Apparatus according to any preceding claims, further including a rotary barrel supporting an array of the sald dies (5) operable sequentially with one or more punches (10).
- 16. A method of forming a base (2) on a tubular container (3), the method comprising the sleps of locating the container such that one end extends marginally this odie (5), heading a strip (22) of thermoplastic material, heading the strip (22) of thermoplastic material between a punch (10) and a punch plate (7) having an apenture (8) defining an open ord of the clie (5), shearing off a slug of the said material by torcing the strip (22) against the plate (7), and punching the slug through the spectrus (8) into forming engagement with the die (5) such that a peripheral edge of the skip is thempoplasticy bonded to the exposed end of the container (3) within the ed (5) to both the base (2).
- 17. A method according to claim 16, including the further sleps of loading a tubular container (3) from a magazine into a first die (5), whilet simultaneously forming a base (2) on another tubular container (3) in a second die (5), alternating the positions of the first and second dies (5), auth ejecting the other container (3) incorporating the newly formed base (2) whilet simultaneously forming a base (2) on the container (3) in the first die (5) by means of the same punch (10).

Patentansprüche

1. Vorrichtung zum Anformen eines Bodens (2) an einen rohrförmigen Behälter (3), wobei die Vorrichtung eine Matrize (5) aufweist, sowie einen Ziehring (7) mit einer Öffnung (8), die ein offenes Ende der Matrize (5) definiert, einen Stempel (10), der mit dem Ziehring (7) und der Matrize (7) zusammenwirken kann, eine Transporteinrichtung zum Zuführen eines Bandes aus thermoplastischem Materiai (22) zwischen den Stempel (10) und den Ziehring (7). eine Heizelnrichtung zum Erwärmen des thermoplastischen Materials und eine Halteeinrichtung (12) zum Festhalten des Behälters (3) in der Weise, daß ein Ende geringfügig in die Matrize (5) hineinragt, wobei der Stempel (10) in einem einzigen Hub betätigber ist, um ein Stück des Materials abzuscheren, indem der Streifen (22) gegen den Ziehring (7) georeßf wird, und das Meterialstück durch die Öffnung (8) hindurch in formschlüssigen Eingriff mit der Matrize (5) gebracht wird, so daß ein

- Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, bei der die Transporteinrichtung so angeordnet ist, deß des Band (22) aus thermoplastischem Material direkt von einer Extrusionsdüse zugeführt wird.
- Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 2, bei der die Extrusionsdüse das thermoplastische Material direkt zwischen den Stempel (10) und den Ziehring (7) zuführt und damit die Transporteinrichtung derstellt.
- Vorrichtung nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, die des weiteren eine Entüftung (25) enthält, um die Luft während des Stempelhubs aus dem Matrizenhohlraum abzuleiten.
- Vorrichtung nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, die des wolteren eine Auswerteilnrichtung enthält, die so angsortnet ist, daß sie beim Zurückziehen des Stempets unter Druck stehendes 2s Gas zwischen den Boden und die Form richtet, um den Behälter auszuwerfen.
- Vorriothung nach einem der vorstehlenden Ansprüche, bei dem die Halteeimichtung (12) einen Innen- so martel (14) und einen komplemenären Außenmartel (15) enthält, um die Seitenwände des rohrförmigen Behälters (3) während des Formprozesses innen und außen abzustützen.
- Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 6, die des weiteren eine Anschlageinrichtung (20) enthält, um das entiernte Ende des rohrförmigen Behälters (2) zu fizieren und dadurch das Ausmaß zu bestimmen, mit dem das freiliegende Ende in die Matrize (5) ragt.
- Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 7, bei der die Anschlageinrichtung (20) verstellber ist, um ein selektives Andern des Ausmaßes, um das das freitiegende Ende in die Matrize (5) regt, zu gestetten und um 45 rohrformige Behälter (3) verschiedener Längen aufnehmen zu können.
- Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 7 oder 8, bei der die Anschlagelnrichtung eine Schulter (20) umfaßt, die 50 an dem Innenmantel (14) ausgeformt ist.
- Vortichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 6 bis 9, bei der das proximale Ende des Innenmanteis (14) gegenüber dem Stempel (10) eine Fläche (8) der 58 Matrize (5), und der Stempel (10) eine entsprecherde Geoenfläche der Matrize (5) definieren
- 11. Vorrichtung nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprü-

- che, bei der die Matrize (5) so gestaltet ist, daß dass freiliegende Ende des Behälters (3) in der Matrize (5) awischen entsprechenden Innen- und Außenilppen (52, 3) des zum Böden (2) gehörenden hern rungbistlichen Materials gefäßt wird, um dan mechanischen Enigriff und die thermoplastische Verbindung zwischen dem Behälter (3) und dem Boden (2) zu verbessern.
- 10 12. Vorrichtung nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, die des weiteren eine Kühleinrichtung enthält, um Kühlmittel durch den Stempel (10) oder die Matrize (5) zu leiten.
- 5 13. Vorrichtung nach Anspruch 12 in Verbindung mit Anspruch 6, bei der die K\(\tilde{U}\)helienrichtung des weiteren so ausgef\(\tilde{U}\)hrt 1st, daß sie K\(\tilde{U}\)hinliteid durch mindestens einen der inneren und \(\tilde{u}\)beren S\(\tilde{U}\)tzmählet (14, 15) eitet.
- 14. Vorrichtung nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, die ein Paar der genannten Matrizen (3) erthält, die so angeordnet sind, daß eie unterhalb eines einzigen Stempels (10) hin- und hergehen vor daß ein Behälter (3) in eine erste der Matrizen (3) eines Beden (2) an den Behälter (3) in der zweiten der Matrizen (5) anformt, wobei ein Positionswochsel gestattet, den Behälter (3) mit dem neu angelormten Boden (2) aus der zweiten Matrize (3) auszuwerten, während gleichzeitig ein Boden (2) aus dem Behälter (3) in der ersten Matrize (3) angefornt wird.
- 35 15. Vorrichtung nach einem der vorstehenden Ansprüche, die des weiteren eine drahbare Trommel enthält, die eine Anordnung der Matrizen (5) trägt, die sequentiell mit einem oder mahreren der Stempel (10) eingesetzt werden können.
 - 16. Verfahren zum Anformen eines Bodens (2) an einen rohrförmigen Behälter (3), wobei das Verlahren folgende Schritte umfaßt: Festhelten des Behälters in der Weise, daß ein Ende geringfügig in eine Matrize (5) ragt, Erwärmen eines Bandes (22) aus thermoplastischem Material, Zuführen des Bandes (22) aus thermoplastischem Material zwischen einen Stempel (10) und einen Ziehring (7) mit einer Offnung (8), die ein offenes Ende der Matrize (5) definiert, Abscheren eines Materialstücks, Indem der Streifen (22) gegen den Ziehring (7) gepreßt wird, und Stoßen des Materialstücks durch die Öffnung (8) hindurch in formschlüssigen Eingriff mit der Matrize (5), so daß ein Umfangsrand des Materialstücks zum Anformen des Bodens (2) mit dem freiliegenden Ende des Behälters (3) in der Matrize (5) thermoplastisch verbunden wird.
 - 17. Verlahren nach Anspruch 16. das des weiteren fol-

gende Schritte enthält: Einsetzen eines rohrförmigen Behälters (3) aus einem Magazin in eine erste Matrize (5), während gleichzeitig ein Boden (2) an einen anderen rohrförmigen Behälter (3) in einer zweiten Matrize (5) angeformt wird, Wechseln der Positionen der ersten und zweiten Matrize (5) und Auswerfen des anderen Behälters (3) mit dem neu angeformten Boden (2), während gleichzeitig mittels desselben Stempels (10) ein Boden (2) an den Behälter (3) In der ersten Matrize (5) angeformt 10 7. Appareil selon la revendication 6, incluant en outre wird.

Revendications

- 1. Appareil pour former une base (2) sur un conteneur 16 tubulaire (3). l'appareil comprenant une matrice (5). une plaque de poinconnage (7) avant une ouverture (8) définissant une extrémité ouverte de la matrice (5), un poinçon (10) apte à coopérer avec la plaque de poinçonnage (7) et la matrice (5), un 20 moyen de transport pour faire avancer une bande (22) de matière thermoplastique entre le poincon (10) et la plaque de poinconnage (7), un moyen de chauffage pour chauffer la matière thermoplastique, et un moyen de positionnement (12) pour posi- 25 tionner le conteneur (3) de façon telle qu'une extrémité s'étende très légèrement dans la matrice (5), le poinçon (10) pouvant être actionné selon une course unique pour couper une pastille de la matière en forcant la bande (22) contre la plaque de 30 poinconnage (7) et pour poinconner la pastille à trevers l'ouverture (8) en engagement de forme avec la matrice (5) de sorte qu'un bord périphérique de la pastille est lié de façon thermoplastique à l'extrémité exposée du conteneur (3), dans la matrice (5), 35 pour former la base (2).
- 2. Appareil selon la revendication 1, dans lequel le moyen de transport est disposé pour faire avancer la bande (22) de matière thermoplastique directe- 40 ment depuis une matrice d'extrusion.
- 3. Appareil selon la revendication 2, dans lequel la matrice d'extrusion fait avancer la matière thermoplastique directement entre le poinçon (10) et la plaque de poinçonnage (7) et constitue ainsi ledit moyen de transport.
- Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications. précédentes, incluant en outre un évent (25) pour so diriger l'air provenant de la cavité de matrice durant la course du poincon.
- 5. Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, incluant en outre un moyen d'éjection 55 disposé pour diriger du gaz sous pression entre la base el la matrice lors du retrait du polncon pour électer le conteneur.

- 6. Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel le moyen de positionnement (12) comprend une chemise intérieure (14) et une chemise extérieure (15) complémentaire, disposées respectivement de facon à fournir un support intérieur et extérieur aux parois latérales du conteneur tubulaire (3) durant le procédé de formage.
- un moyen de butée (20) pour positionner l'extrémité distante du conteneur tubulaire (2) et déterminer ainsi le degré selon lequel l'extrémité exposée s'étend dans la matrice (5).
- Appareil selon la revendication 7, dans lequel le moyen de butée (20) peut être alusté pour permettre une variation sélective du degré selon lequel l'extrémité exposée s'étend dans la matrice (5) et pour recevoir des conteneurs tubulaires (3) de longueurs différentes.
 - 9. Appareil selon la revendication 7 ou 8, dans lequel le moyen de butée comprend un épaulement (20) formé sur la chemise intérieure (14).
 - 10. Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications 6 à 9, dans lequel l'extrémité proximale de la chemise intérieure (14) faisant face au poinçon (10) définit une face (6) de la matrice (5) et le poincon (10) définit une face correspondante opposée de la matrice (5).
 - Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications. précédentes, dans lequel la matrice (5) présente une configuration telle que l'extrémité exposée du conteneur (3) dans la matrice (5) est prise en sandwich entre les lèvres respectives intérieure et extérieure (32, 33) de la matière thermoplastique associée à la base (2) pour renforcer l'engagement mécanique et la llaison thermoplastique entre le conteneur (3) et la base (2).
- 12. Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, incluant en cutre un moyen de refroidissement pour diriger du liquide de refroidissement à travers le poincon (10) ou la matrice (5).
- 13. Appareil selon la revendication 12 lorsqu'elle est dépendante de la revendication 6, dans lequel le moven de retroidissement est en outre adapté pour diriger du liquide de refroidissement à travers au moins une des chemises de support intérieure et extérieure (14, 15).
- 14. Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, incluant une paire desdites matrices disposées pour faire la navette sous un unique poinçon (10), en permettant ainsi à un conteneur

- (3) d'ave charge dans une première des matrices (5), pendant que le poinçon (10) forme une base (2) sur le conteneur (3) dans une seconde des matrices (5), grâce à quo ifaternance des positions permet au conteneur (3) incorporant la base onoveniement formée (2) d'être éjectée de la seconde matrice (5) pendant q'une base (2) est tormée simultanément sur le conteneur (3) dans la première maprice.
- 15. Appareil selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, incluant en outre un barillet rotatif supportant une rangée desdites matrices (5) pouvant être actionné de tagon séquentielle avec un ou plusieurs poingons (10).
- 16. Procédé de formation d'une base (2) sur un conteneur tubulaire (3), le procédé comprenant les étapes de positionnement du conteneur de sorte qu'une extrémité s'étende très légèrement dans 20 une matrice (5), de chauffage d'une bende (22) de matière thermoplastique, d'avancement de la bande (22) de matière thermoplastique entre un poincon (10) et une plaque de poincannage (7) ayant une ouverture (8) définissant une extrémité ouverte de la matrice (5), de découpage d'une pastille de ladite matière en forcant la bande (22) contre la plaque de poinçonnage (7), et de poinçonnage de la pastille par l'ouverture (8) en engagement de lorme avec la matrice (5) de sorte 30 qu'un bord périphérique de la pastille est lié de facon thermoplastique à l'extrémité exposée du conteneur (3), dans la matrice (5), pour former la base (2).
- 17. Procédé selon la reventication 18, incluant les étapes supplémentaires de Anagnement dun conteneur tubulaire (3) depuis un magasin dans une première maires (5), pendant que l'en brem einulaisanément une base (2) sur un autre conteneur tubulaire (3) dans une seconde matrice (5), det discion de la futre conteneur des positions des première et seconde matrices 6), et d'éléction de l'autre conteneur (3) incorporant la base nouvellement formée (2) pendant que l'an forme simultanément une base (2) sur les conteneurs (3), dans la première matrice (5), au moyen du même poinopon (10).

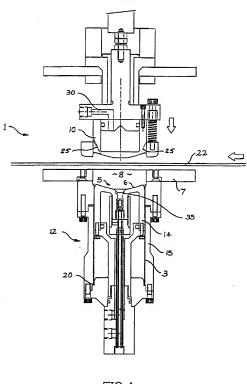


FIG 1

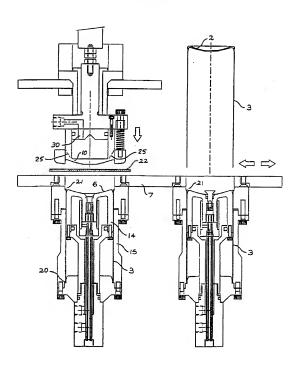


FIG 2

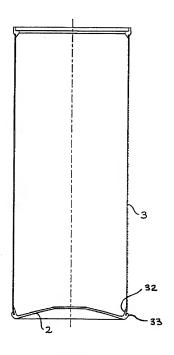


FIG 3